

Roman Catholics Disabilities Removal Bill.

MEMORANDUM.

The object of this Bill is to repeal certain penal enactments affecting only Roman Catholic religious communities of men in Great Britain and Ireland, and to place the members of those communities in the same position, in respect of the right to acquire property, as that now occupied by the members of all religious communities of women.

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Provide for the removal of certain Disabilities affecting A.D. 1903.
 Roman Catholics in Great Britain and Ireland.

BE it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

- 5 1. Notwithstanding any Act of Parliament to the contrary, it shall be, and shall be deemed to have been, lawful for Jesuits and members of other religious orders, communities, or societies of the Roman Catholic Church (described in certain Acts of Parliament, including the Roman Catholic Relief Act, 1829, as the Church of
 10 Rome) bound by monastic or religious vows, to reside in the United Kingdom.
2. It shall be lawful, and it shall be deemed to have been lawful, for Jesuits and members of other religious orders, communities, and societies of the said Church, consisting of men and bound by religious
 15 or monastic vows, to take and acquire property in like manner and to the same extent as, but subject to such limitations and disabilities as now affect, the members of any religious order, community, or establishment consisting of females bound by religious or monastic
 20 any property in respect of which it has been judicially determined that it was illegal for Jesuits or for members of other religious orders, communities, or societies as aforesaid to take or acquire the same: Provided also that nothing herein contained shall extend to any property given by deed or will, or otherwise, to Jesuits or
 25 members of other religious orders, communities, or societies as aforesaid, which property is now in the actual possession of the person or persons beneficially entitled thereto on account of the gift of the said property having been void under the law as existing before the passing of this Act.

Residence in the United Kingdom permitted to members of religious orders of the Roman Catholic Church.

Power of members of religious orders to acquire property.

[Bill 21.]

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- A.D. 1903.
Repeal. 3. There shall be repealed as from the *passing of this Act* so much of any Act of Parliament as makes any provision for the suppression or prohibition of Jesuits or members of other religious orders, communities, or societies as aforesaid, and also and more particularly, the enactments set forth in the schedule hereto to the 5 extent in the third column of that schedule mentioned.
- Definition. 4. The expression "property" in this Act shall mean both real and personal property.
- Short title. 5. This Act may be cited as the Catholic Relief Act, 1903.

SCHEDULE.

A.D. 1803.

Session and Chapter.	Short Title.	Extent of Repeal.
9 Will. 3. c. 1. -	An Act for banishing Papists	Whole Act.
5 31 Geo. 3. c. 32. -	Roman Catholic Relief Act, 1791.	Sections five, six, eleven, fourteen, and seventeen.
10 10 Geo. 4. c. 7. -	Roman Catholic Relief Act, 1829.	Sections twenty-six, twenty-eight, twenty-nine, thirty, thirty-one, thirty-two, thirty-three, thirty-four, thirty-five, thirty-six.
2 & 3 Will. 4. c. 115.	Roman Catholic Charities Act, 1832.	Section four
15 18 & 19 Vict. c. 81. -	Places of Worship Registration Act, 1855.	The whole Act so far as it applies to Roman Catholics or to Roman Catholic churches or places of worship.
23 & 24 Vict. c. 134.	Roman Catholic Charities Act, 1860.	Section seven.